

MID-JEFFERSON COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER



OFFICERS COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Lynne James
President

Gail Krohn
Immediate Past President
Publicity & Nominations
Scholarship

Linda Harrison
First Vice President
Membership

Linda Briggs
Second Vice President
Programs/Book Project

Donna Lumpkin
Secretary

Loretta Morman
Treasurer

Dixie Tucker
Parliamentarian

Richard Briggs
Legislation

Patricia Allen
Social Media

Becky Dungan
Yearbook

Lynne James
Newsletter
Technology Contact

Olive Hall & Jolene Lemaire
Historians

Clara Graham
Foundation Representative

Beulah Thompson
Community Volunteer
Services

Dana Wasser
Member Benefits

Helen Reynolds
Healthy Living

Linda Fong
Memorials, Get-Well, &
Protective Services

Rosalie Reese
Retirement Education

Wanda Borne
Audit

Beverly Minaldi
Hospitality



MARCH PROGRAM *Hank, the Therapy Dog*



Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 @1:30 PM, Ritter Senior Center, 914 Boston, Nederland

Program: Dr. Robin Perez, NISD Superintendent

Hostesses: Linda Pinner (chair), Wanda Borne, Loretta Morman, and Olive Hall

The time is NOW . . .

. . . A message from **MJCRSP President Lynne James**



In a few days, on April 1 to be exact, delegates from MJCRSP will journey to Austin for the TRTA state convention. We will meet in breakout sessions related to how we can enhance the quality of retirees' lives in various ways. We will also meet all together in a House of Delegates to review our guiding principles to assure you that what we are doing is geared to the betterment of all. Then, on April 3, all delegates from across the state will descend upon the state capitol to visit with representatives and senators on your behalf. Wouldn't it be nice if, while we are meeting with them face-to-face, all of you back home were calling and sending emails reminding them that retirees need help!

Tim Lee recently wrote in the *Inside Line* that SB12, authored in the Senate by Senator Joan Huffman and passed March 25, will ". . . increase state, district, and active employees' pension contributions over a six-year period, and . . . would also provide a payment to ALL retired school employees, putting more money in retirees' hands immediately." Huffman is working with Representative Greg Bonnen in the Texas House on HB9 "to bring more financial stability to one of the largest pension funds in the world and to provide additional money for retired teachers." It has passed out of committee. Obviously, our voices are being heard. Don't let up the pressure now.

If you have not already done so, "tell your story." If you have an email account, it is a simple task, the hardest being actually composing your story. After you have a final draft, **copy** it, **click** the address of your senator/representative to open up an email message, **paste** a copy of the draft of your story into the message, and hit **send**. Do your part **NOW**. Contact information for all members of the Texas Legislature were previously sent to those of you with email addresses. If you have misplaced the list, you can find it at the top of our unit website (www.mjcrsp.org) right below the navigation bar in red and blue letters. If you do not have Internet access, call me (409-735-6171) and I will mail you the necessary information.

If we don't get relief now, it will be 2021 before we have another opportunity!

SPECIAL THANKS to MCT Credit Union and Hebert Library for the use of their facilities in preparing our monthly newsletters.

March meeting highlights



Row 1: Lynne James calls the meeting to order; members pledge allegiance to the flags; David Hornack, handler, introduces Hank, the Therapy Dog; Hank visits with Dana Wasser and Loretta Morman. **Row 2:** Hank also enjoys a pat from Becky Dungan; members show interest as Hornack explains how Hank was trained; Lynne thanks David and Hank for their time with the members; Hank says goodbye; District V President Artemus Hancock addresses the members about important items and events. **Row 3:** Hostesses Donna Lumpkin, Gail Krohn (chair), Helen Reynolds, and Patricia Allen are ready to serve; members socialize during refreshment time. **Row 4:** When refreshment time is over, committee chairs give reports: Helen Reynolds reports on healthy living tips; Membership Chair Linda Harrison explains membership incentives; Donna Lumpkin reads a note from TRTA Past President Nancy Byerly; and Beulah Thompson, community volunteer chair, explains the importance of volunteering in the community.

MEMBERSHIP: Linda Harrison, membership chair, reminds those who joined or renewed their membership in February or March of two \$25 gift cards to be given away at the April 9 meeting. For those who recruit members or are recruited during March and April, there will be a drawing in May for two \$25 gift cards, one to a recruiter and the other to a recruited member. Membership forms are attached for those who have not joined! Remember that TRTA memberships expire on the last day of February every year. If you are enrolled in any AMBA benefits, those also expire if you have not renewed your membership in TRTA.

HELEN'S HEALTH TIP: Using substitutes for high calorie and high fat ingredients will lead to healthier and equally delicious foods. For example, when cooking, substitute applesauce for butter, margarine, or oil and extra-lean ground beef or ground turkey breast for ground beef; when baking, substitute pureed fruit or a dusting of powdered sugar for frosting and a graham cracker crumb crust for pastry dough.